

(3)



Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

AUG 28 2001

MR ERNIE LAZAR
POST OFFICE BOX 423434
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94142 3434

✓ Subject: FILE 100 356570

FOIPA No. 0943625- 000

Knights of the KKK / Bell / Hendrix

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552

- ☐ (b)(1)
- ☒ (b)(2)
- ☐ (b)(3) _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ (b)(4)
- ☐ (b)(5)
- ☐ (b)(6)

- ☐ (b)(7)(A)
- ☐ (b)(7)(B)
- ☒ (b)(7)(C)
- ☒ (b)(7)(D)
- ☐ (b)(7)(E)
- ☐ (b)(7)(F)
- ☐ (b)(8)
- ☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

- ☐ (d)(5)
- ☐ (j)(2)
- ☐ (k)(1)
- ☐ (k)(2)
- ☐ (k)(3)
- ☐ (k)(4)
- ☐ (k)(5)
- ☐ (k)(6)
- ☐ (k)(7)

31 page(s) were reviewed and 28 page(s) are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request that it may be easily identified.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

08/13/1957

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 3

Page 25 ~ b7C, b7C

Page 27 ~ b7C, b7C

Page 29 ~ b7C, b7C

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X for this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: FILE 100-356570 SERIAL 104

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 5 1957

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4/26, 5/15-17, 20, 23, 27, 28; 6/1, 6, 10, 12, 14
19, 20, 24, 28, 29; 7/2, 6, 8, 9, 14, 17, 19, 23, 26

REPORTING OFFICE MIAMI	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MIAMI	DATE 8/13/57	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/1/57
TITLE OF CASE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, aka Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan		REPORT MADE BY b7C	TYPED BY JEW mlf
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - X	

SYNOPSIS:

Activities of Pinellas County Klavern #4, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (KKKK), St. Petersburg, Fla., reported. Members of Klavern #4 are building a Klavern building on land owned by BILL HENDRIX, Oldsmar, Fla. Attendance at Klavern #4 meetings has fallen off and, at one meeting in May, 1957, only one member was present. At a meeting in June, 1957, only three members were present. BILL HENDRIX spoke at Brooksville, Fla., on 7/6/57, and reportedly stated that "A dead nigger has no civil rights." BILL HENDRIX'S activities in S. C., Tenn. and Fla. reported. The Klan in Brooksville, Fla. reportedly succeeded in having a school teacher discharged and ten teachers suspended for advocating integration in the schools. Pinellas County Klavern #4 - 2, KKKK, St. Petersburg, Fla., held meeting on 5/20/57, and, reportedly, only six members were present. Klavern #4 - 2 reportedly is not having meetings because their Exalted Cyclops has been in Calif. No acts of violence known to have been performed by KKKK.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

- P - DATE 6-28-81 BY 60267 NLS/ep/cd

APPROVED COPIES MADE:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE AGENCY G-2, ONI, OSI, RAB (4-1) REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. 8-26-57 HOW FORW. A/S BY CFW:gtt	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW 135657-104 RECORDED - 14 INDEXED - 83 EX-105
------------------------------	--	---

MM 100-11349

COPIES OF THIS REPORT:

- 6 - Bureau (100-356570)(RM)
- 1 - G-2, Ft. McPherson, Ga. (RM)
- 1 - OSI, MacDill AFB, Fla. (RM)
- 1 - ONI, 6th N. D., Charleston, S. C. (RM)
- 1 - Atlanta (105-242)(Info)(RM)
- 2 - Charlotte (105-539)(RM)
- 1 - Knoxville (100-1386)(Info)(RM)
- 1 - Mobile (105-14)(Info)(RM)
- 3 - Miami (100-11349)

MM 100-11349

DETAILS: AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, also known as Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, will be referred to hereinafter as the KKKK.

A. IDENTITIES AND LOCATIONS OF KLAVERNS - MIAMI DIVISION

Pinellas County Klavern #4 (Red Rover), KKKK, St. Petersburg, Fla

Pinellas County Klavern #4 - 2, KKKK, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Brooksville Klavern, KKKK, Brooksville, Fla.

B. CURRENT OBJECTIVES AND STATED AIMS

On [] Confidential Informant [] advised that BILL HENDRIX and his Klansmen are discussing the possibility of organizing another Citizens Council. No name has been decided upon, but discussion centers around possibly naming the new council either the ~~White~~ Citizens Council of Florida, the JOHN GATES Citizens Council, or the Seaboard Citizens Council of Florida.

[] reported that some of the Klansmen in the KKKK belong either to the St. Petersburg Citizens Council or to Citizens Council of Florida, the latter which is under the leadership of Dr. C. LEWIS HOWLER, St. Petersburg, Florida.

On [] [] stated that BILL HENDRIX, who spoke near Knoxville, Tennessee, on May 18, 1957, made the statement upon his return to Florida that there are over 200 men in the Knoxville area who are anxious to have him organize there. HENDRIX stated he would do no active organizing as long as [] appeal has not been decided by the courts.

HENDRIX stated that if [] conviction is upheld, he is through speaking. HENDRIX stated, "I'll load my gun!" He also stated that if [] conviction is upheld, he (HENDRIX) will have to resort to "preaching" in a church which he will have to charter, as no man will be free to speak to his neighbor without fear of being thrown into jail. HENDRIX added that if the court reverses [] conviction, then he will be free to go ahead and organize in the Knoxville area.

MM 100-11349

On [] Confidential Informant [] advised that [] Greenville, South Carolina, who was formerly connected with the Greenville Klavern of the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, on May 30, 1957, stated that the majority of the former members of the South Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., which had recently disbanded, are forming a new organization to be known as South Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, which will operate on a state-wide basis.

[] stated that a large public rally was being planned at or near West Gantt Station, South Carolina, U. S. Highway #29, about five miles from Greenville, on Saturday night, June 1, 1957, [] stated he had been selected as Grand Titan for South Carolina for the new organization.

[] made the statement that the new organization will be associated with the Klan groups under the direction of BILL HENDRIX of Florida; further, that HENDRIX is the Imperial Wizard of this group and that Klan groups under this association are now organized or being organized in 21 states.

[] also stated that he wanted the information about the proposed meeting published in the papers on May 31, 1957, but did not want his identity or his position in the Klan organization to appear in the paper. [] indicated he did want published the planned meeting and the facts concerning the new organization of the Klan.

On [] [] reported that it was his understanding that BILL HENDRIX would speak at Greenville, South Carolina on the night of June 1, 1957.

On [] [] stated that, in his opinion, BILL HENDRIX had been in touch with [] Greenville, South Carolina, prior to May 30, 1957, and had "fed" [] data which HENDRIX calculated would be newsworthy resulting in publicity for the Klan and, thereby, insuring a good turnout at the meeting of June 1, 1957.

[] advised that he possesses no information that HENDRIX'S KKKK has affiliated with any South Carolina Klan groups; further, if KKKK is operating in 21 states, he is unaware of it.

MM 100-11349

On [] reported that BILL HENDRIX was recently in the state of Alabama and was in contact with [] a Klansman in Alabama.

HENDRIX stated that [] is dissatisfied with the way the Klan is being operated in Alabama and wants to merge the Klan in Alabama with HENDRIX'S KKKK. HENDRIX indicated that he was agreeable with such a merger.

[] stated that the above statements of HENDRIX may be "wishful" thinking on HENDRIX'S part, coupled with his known trait of always leaving the impression that some other Klan group is dissatisfied and wants HENDRIX as their leader when such has not been true in the past.

The "St. Petersburg Independent," St. Petersburg, Florida, under date of July 3, 1957, dateline Oldsmar, Florida, (AP), reported that an officer of KKKK said today his group is working to form a new political party with plans to conduct a nationwide political campaign.

BILL HENDRIX, who identified himself as Imperial Officer, KKKK, said the new party is to be known as the "Democrat Republican Party."

The party will urge abolition of all income tax, abolishing all foreign aid except on "good security," abolishing Supreme Court of the United States, election of all Federal Judges and Supreme Court Judges and state regulation of all segregation problems.

On [] advised that HENDRIX, to his knowledge, has undertaken no concrete action to implement the Democrat Republican Party or its stated aims. [] advanced the opinion that HENDRIX made the announcement at the same time he announced a public speaking of KKKK at Brooksville, Florida, for the night of July 6, 1957, in an attempt to draw a crowd at the speaking. [] said he is of the opinion that HENDRIX is merely letting off "hot air" about the formation of this party.

On [] Confidential Informant [] advised that BILL HENDRIX was the principal and only speaker at a public rally of KKKK in an open field near Brooksville, Florida, on the night of July 6, 1957.

MM 100-11349

HENDRIX, according to [] in his speech, attacked the United States Supreme Court for its segregation rules. He spoke of his announced plans to organize a third political party in Florida to be known as the Democrat Republican Party whose main purpose will be to abolish the U. S. Supreme Court and the Federal income tax laws.

On [] [] reported that HENDRIX, in his speech at the public speaking at Brooksville, on the night of July 6, 1957, urged those present to cooperate with their law enforcement agencies in the event of any trouble, stating that the NAACP welcomed disorder and discord that could be stirred up in a southern town.

HENDRIX repeated a statement he claims he made in South Carolina that "A dead nigger has no civil rights." He stated it would make no difference whether or not Civil Rights legislation was passed because the Federal Government had already assumed powers far surpassing any asked for in the Civil Rights legislation. HENDRIX mentioned, as an example, the trial of [] in Knoxville.

HENDRIX mentioned the Democrat Republican Party, stating that the entire nation was fed up with the present political parties and that the time was ripe for a strong States Rights movement. He explained that he had made the announcement so that plenty of preparation could be made before the next national election.

C. PUBLICITY AND PROPAGANDA

On [] advised that BILL HENDRIX would speak and debate with ELTON L. EDWARDS, Imperial Wizard, U. S. Klans, Atlanta, Georgia, on Saturday night, May 18, 1957, at the Diehl Farm, Calahan Road, Knoxville, Tennessee. HENDRIX has stated he will ask EDWARDS "where the Tennessee money went?" HENDRIX stated that [] is in Knoxville making arrangements for the debate. HENDRIX was not sure that EDWARDS would accept his challenge to debate.

On [] made available a piece of black oil cloth, with the word "JEW" painted thereon in capital letters in aluminum paint. Also painted on the was a swastika in aluminum paint.

MM 100-11349

[] advised that HENDRIX said, on June 14, 1957, that he had placed these signs around Tampa, Florida, before ELDON L. EDWARDS was scheduled to speak at a Klan rally in Tampa, hoping that EDWARDS would be blamed for the appearance of the signs. [] stated he understood that EDWARDS spoke at a Klan rally north of Tampa on June 15, 1957.

On [] reported that HENDRIX has indicated that KKKK would hold public speakings and rallies at Lake City and Brooksville, Florida, in July; farther, that it was planned to hold rallies in cities in South Carolina. According to [] these plans of HENDRIX are just in the "talking" and "formative" stage.

The "St. Petersburg Times," dated June 20, 1957, with dateline Tampa, (UP), reported that BILL HENDRIX, Florida Ku Klux Klan leader, said, on June 19, 1957, that his KKK group, one of many operating in the South, would hold meetings in July in Lake City and Brooksville, Florida, and in several cities in South Carolina and Tennessee. HENDRIX did not reveal the exact meeting dates.

On [] made available a throwaway that had a picture of a monkey on one side and the following printed matter on the other:

"Y'ALL COME, and HEAR

"Mr. JOHN TAPERS MONK, The
SLOPPY JEW FROM NEW YORK, and
PUBLISHER OF TALLAHASSEE'S
LEADING NEGRO NEWS PAPER,
SPEAK ON THE SUBJECT OF
'RADICAL EQUALITY? INTEGRATION
and the FUTURE' at the HALL
of the BROTHERHOOD OF THE
N. A. C. P. MR. JOHN AND
his paper are LEADING AUTHORITIES
ON LIES? LIES, and
MORE LIES.
FOR TICKETS TO THIS FAMOUS AFFIAR
SEE TALLAHASSEE'S POLICE
CHIEF, MR. JOHN'S CLOSE FRIEND
and HELP MATE.

MM 100-11349

"ALL MONGRELS and COMMUNIST
PROFESSORS ARE INVITED.

"ON THE OTHER SIDE IS A LIKENESS
of MR. JOHN IN DEEP STUDY OF
HOW TO MONGRELIZE TALLAHASSEE."

[] advised that HENDRIX stated that he had one thousand of these throwaways and plans to have others made up referring to the editors of the "Tampa Tribune," and the "St. Petersburg Times."

[] stated he is of the opinion that HENDRIX secured the picture of the monkey from FOREST WOLFE and JOHN HAMILTON, St. Louis, Missouri, who are visiting in Clearwater, Florida. They edit the "White Sentinel," in St. Louis.

On [] advised that when HENDRIX spoke at Brooksville, Florida, on the night of July 6, 1957, newsmen present included representatives from TV Station WTVJ, Miami, Florida; TV Station WTVT, Tampa, Florida; TV Station WCKT, Miami; TV Station WMBR, Jacksonville, Florida; TV Station WFLA, Tampa; and the editor of the "Brooksville Journal."

On [] reported that HENDRIX delayed the start of his speech at the public speaking of KKKK at Brooksville, Florida, on the night of July 6, 1957, so that the newspapermen and TV representatives could interview him and take pictures. [] said that all during HENDRIX'S speech, the newsmen present kept a steady barrage of lights and tape recorders in operation. After the speech was over, additional interviews were conducted of HENDRIX and two robed Klansmen.

[] reported that he had heard that the Brooksville and Orlando, Florida papers had good write-ups of the speaking at Brooksville, prior to July 6, 1957, announcing the time, place, etc.

MM 100-11349

On [] advised that "The Klansman," official paper of the KKKK, has only had one printing and that HENDRIX has not indicated when another issue will be printed.

D. FINANCES

On [] advised that at a meeting of the Pinellas County Klavern #4, St. Petersburg, Florida, on May 10, 1957, \$10.50 in dues was collected.

[]

[] stated that it was decided at this meeting that all the funds in the treasury, \$96.00 and some cents, be transferred to the building fund in order that necessary materials could be purchased.

It was agreed that certificates would be issued to those donating to the building fund, which certificates would be redeemed at such time as the treasury was able to pay off the debt. [] said that there was \$25.00 in the building fund before the \$96.00 was transferred.

[] advised that the building fund referred to is for a Klavern building of the KKKK being erected on land owned by BILL HENDRIX, at 105 County Road, Oldsmar, Florida.

On [] advised that at a meeting of the Pinellas County Klavern #4, []

[]

On [] reported that he was unaware of the financial setup of the overall KKKK, if, in fact, the KKKK was operating in other places than St. Petersburg and Brooksville, Florida.

MM 100-11349

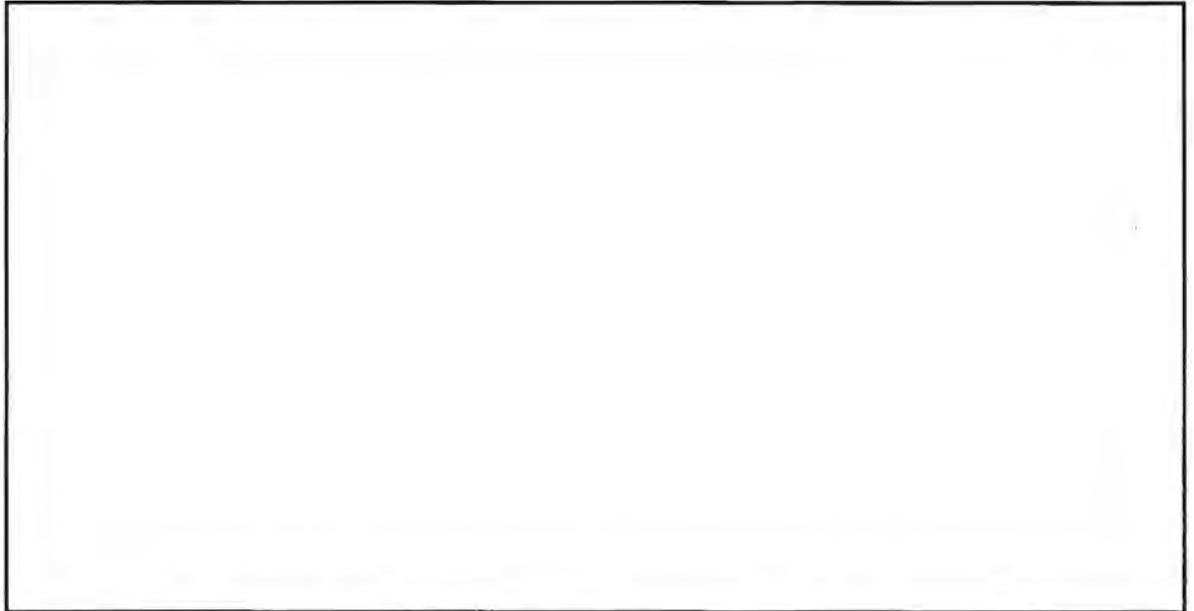
E. ACTIVITIES OF KLAVERNS - MIAMI DIVISION

1. Name and Location

Pinellas County Klavern #4, (Red Rover), St. Petersburg, Florida.

2. Meetings

On [redacted] reported that a closed meeting of Klavern #4 was held at [redacted] residence of [redacted]



b2
b7D

During the meeting, it was brought out that at Greenville, South Carolina, there are 264 men who are in ELDON L. EDWARD'S Klan who are now ready to come over to the KKKK.

It was mentioned that two more large signs urging "Negroes to come to Miami Beach, Florida" are ready to be put up somewhere in the county.

MM 100-11349

[Redacted]

3. Membership

[Redacted]

1. Name and Location

Pinellas Klavern #4 - 2, St. Petersburg, Florida.

2. Meetings

[Redacted]

3. Membership

On [Redacted] reported that he has no idea how many members are affiliated with Klavern #4 - 2.

b2
b7C
b7D

MM 100-11349-

1. Name and Location

Brooksville Klavern, Brooksville, Florida

On [] reported that a public speaking of KKKK was held on the night of July 6, 1957, in a pasture on the north side of U. S. Highway #50, about two miles west of Brooksville, Florida. It was stated that the pasture was owned by a member of the Brooksville Klavern and rented to his son-in-law, who is also a Klansman.

[] stated BILL HENDRIX was the principal and only speaker. HENDRIX spoke from the rear of his 1957 Ford truck. Behind the truck, its base about four feet off the ground, was a large truck body, in the form of a cage, used to transport livestock. On this cage, HENDRIX hung a large sign which read, "Niggers wanted in Miami Beach - Full Integration." A reporter asked HENDRIX what the cage was for and he replied that he was going to get a big black ape, put him in the cage and hang another sign on it stating, "This is LEROY COLLINS." LEROY COLLINS is Governor of Florida.

In front of HENDRIX'S truck were strung 100 watt light bulbs and at either end of the lights stood a wooden cross about ten feet tall, to which had been nailed oil cans filled with gasoline. The cans were ignited during the speech. At the gate leading into the pasture was a smaller cross that burned from a butane tank.

[] stated that HENDRIX is known to have issued orders to at least one Klansman to bring his rifle. HENDRIX had a loaded revolver in the glove compartment of his truck, along with about 30 extra shells. So far as is known, the revolver was not moved from the truck.

[] reported that there were between 100 and 125 cars present in the pasture, and between 400 and 500 people were present, including children.

HENDRIX wore his Klan robes, but no mask. Four Klansmen and a Klanswoman stood near the truck in Klan robes and masks.

MM 100-11349

No collection was taken up or solicited and no appeal was made by HENDRIX for members. HENDRIX stated, after his speech, that he did this in order to confuse the newsmen present as he knew they expected him to appeal for members and funds.

HENDRIX spoke for less than 45 minutes and mentioned the "Jew-Communist" combination that is set on ruining the United States. He also mentioned his Democrat Republican Party and the pending Civil Rights legislation. HENDRIX repeated a statement that he allegedly made in South Carolina: "A dead nigger has no civil rights."

There was very little applause during the speech, most of it following HENDRIX'S remarks concerning RICHARD NIXON and Governor LEROY COLLINS.

[] advised, on [], that HENDRIX received the most applause at his Brooksville speech on July 6, 1957, when he called Governor LEROY COLLINS and Vice-President RICHARD NIXON "nigger loving" politicians. He stated that both were trying to become President. HENDRIX allegedly stated the people of Florida are "fed up" with COLLINS.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

On April 23, 1957, Confidential Informant [] advised that he attended a Klan rally on Highway #29, five miles south of Greenville, South Carolina, on the night of April 20, 1957. He reported that all the Klansmen around the burning cross were robed and masked. A man in a bright red robe called himself the "Grand Titan" and was the principal speaker. The Grand Titan referred to his Klan as the Association of South Carolina Klans.

The Grand Titan introduced another speaker, whom he did not identify, but said he was a Klansman from Florida. According to [] the Klansman from Florida "ranted and raved" about integration, particularly what he called the situation in Washington, D. C. In this connection, he alleged that

MM 100-11349 ,

white women were prostituting themselves to Negroes. This Klansman also stated that the Klan had a large number of private investigators working for them collecting information pertaining to integration of the races, which information they would be able to use in the future. This speaker also generally attacked and criticized Negroes, Catholics and "Jews," labor unions and criticized efforts to enforce integration on the South in line with the opinion of the U. S. Supreme Court.

[] reported that there were about 100 Klansmen in robes and several hundred speculators, including men, women and children.

On [] advised that GEORGE TINKER, of Fort Mill, South Carolina, was the man in the red robe who made the principal speech at the Klan meeting at Greenville, South Carolina, on April 20, 1957.

[] stated that a man was introduced as being from Florida, but his name was not mentioned. [] advised that on April 22, 1957, GEORGE TINKER said that BILL HENDRIX of Florida had been on the speaker's stand, and TINKER added he had not even shaken hands with HENDRIX and had not wanted to.

[] advised, on April 26, 1957, that [] of Columbia, South Carolina, had stated, on April 25, 1957, that BILL HENDRIX of Florida was not invited to the public meeting of the Klan at Greenville, on April 20, 1957, and had come there "on his own."

On [] Confidential Informant [] advised that due to his position in the Rubonia, Palmetto, Florida areas, he is of the opinion he would be aware of any KKKK activity, such as recruiting or meetings. He said there has been no such activity.

On [] Confidential Informant [] advised that the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan really have no organization in Hillsborough County, Florida, although BILL HENDRIX claims to have a following in the county. [] deprecated this claim, but admitted that some former members of the Klan at

MM 100-11349

Ruskin, Florida probably are in "touch" with HENDRIX. He said the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan planned a rally around May 1, 1957, in Tampa, but it did not materialize.

On [redacted] reported that on May 21, 1957, HENDRIX stated that in spite of a complete "blackout" by local newspapers and extensive advertising by the EDWARDS (ELDON L. EDWARDS) group of the KKK, HENDRIX had about 700 people present at his rally on May 18, 1957, near Knoxville, Tennessee, while the EDWARDS group had about 50.

HENDRIX mentioned the names of [redacted] and (FNU) [redacted] as being active segregationists in that area. HENDRIX stated that his speech was sponsored by the Tennessee White Citizens Council.

On [redacted] Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that a State Officers meeting of the U. S. Klans was held at the World Hall, Alexander City, Alabama, on May 26, 1957. ALVIN HORN presided and the purpose was to discuss the split in the U. S. Klans of Alabama and to handle the defense fund for the Montgomery defendants in the bombing case.

[redacted] stated that he had ascertained from unrecalled persons at the State meeting of the U. S. Klans of Alabama that one "WILD BILL," who was the organizer of 14 Klaverns in Florida, will bring his 14 Klaverns into the U. S. Klans.

On [redacted] advised that BILL ELLIS, Exalted Cyclops, Winter Haven, Florida Klavern of Florida Ku Klux Klan, had denied that his Klavern was considering affiliating with KKKK. ELLIS did admit that he had been in conversation with BILL HENDRIX, but that the Klavern had no intention of leaving the Florida Ku Klux Klan.

On [redacted] reported that [redacted] stated as follows in June, 1957:

[redacted]

[redacted]

MM 100-11349

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BILL HENDRIX of Florida, [REDACTED] of Alabama will probably be the strategy men in the rear when the battle comes.

FLOYD FLEMING, Vice-President of the Seaboard White Citizens Councils, Washington, D. C., spoke during June, 1957 of a General Strategy Board of various organizations fighting racial integration. Among organizations he mentioned as connected under this was Florida Klans under BILL HENDRIX.

The "St. Petersburg Times," dated July 15, 1957, has an article, dateline Knoxville, Tennessee, which reports that JOHN KASPER held a rally on JOE BIEHL's farm, about eleven miles from Knoxville, on July 14, 1957. The rally was not a Klan rally, according to KASPER, but the article reported that a black-and-white sign, bearing the legend "Callahan Road-~~KKK~~" marked the turnoff point from the main Knoxville-to-Clinton Highway to the scene of the rally.

The article reported that rain caused the persons in attendance to run for their caps before KASPER could introduce one of the main speakers, WILLIAM HENDRIX, of Dadeville, Florida, who described himself as "Imperial Officer" of the Southern Northern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

The article stated that KASPER said the rally was sponsored by the White Citizens Council and that it was "mainly a religious affair."

MM 100-11349

On [] reported he has no knowledge that any Klaverns of the KKKK are operating in North Florida.

G. ACTS OF INTIMIDATION

On [] reported that at a meeting of Klavern #4, KKKK, St. Petersburg, Florida, on the night of [] it was stated that a "nigger" who lives at [] is still in jail, but will be released in December or January, and that they are "just waiting" for him to get out.

On [] reported that in May, 1957, [] Tampa, Florida, stated that he has 150 men he can count on to "take their guns and go to work" when he gives them the word.

According to [] is a friend of [] who is active in opposing racial integration.

On May 27, 1957, [] St. Petersburg, Florida, Police Department, advised that on May 25, 1957, [] St. Petersburg, received a telephone call about 11:30 AM, on May 25, from a man with a coarse voice. [] stated she could not tell if it was a white man or a Negro. The party stated he was calling from Radio Station WIOK and asked if she was a "nigger." When she did not answer right away, he repeated the question and she told him she was a Negro. He then stated he was calling as a representative of the KKK and he wanted her to know that she was going to have her "guts" cut out.

According to [] is a woman [] years of age, married, who has lived in the same location thirty years; no troubles reported with white or colored persons.

On [] reported that at a meeting of Klavern #4, KKKK, St. Petersburg, Florida, on the night of June 7, 1957, it was stated that Klan in Brooksville, Florida

MM 100-11349

had succeeded in having a school teacher discharged and ten others suspended for one year. This action was taken because they were advocating integration of the schools. It was stated that the ten who were suspended will never again teach in the Brooksville schools.

On [] advised that at a meeting of Klavern #4, KKKK, St. Petersburg, on the night of June 21, 1957, a member stated that an "excellent" bomb could be made by attaching sticks of dynamite to a large firecracker, such as can be purchased in Georgia, lighting the fuse and throwing the dynamite.

On [] reported that BILL HENDRIX made the following statement at a public speaking of KKKK at Brooksville, Florida, on the night of July 6, 1957:

"A dead nigger has no civil rights."

On [] reported that, to his knowledge, there have been no overt acts of violence on the part of the KKKK or its members.

H. APPENDIX

KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN (KKKK),
also known as
Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (SKKKK)

The August 23, 1949 issue of the Tampa, Florida, "Morning Tribune," newspaper, carried an article reflecting an interview with BILL HENDRIX, Imperial Emperor of the SKKKK, relative to the formation of this new Klan. According to the article, HENDRIX said the organization was an outgrowth of the Klan set up in 1915, by WILLIAM JOSEPH SIMMONS. HENDRIX stated SKKKK was started under the name Original Southern Klans, Inc., in June, 1948, a branch of which was formed in Tallahassee, Florida, in January, 1949.

On [] advised that this organization was then inactive.

MM 100-11349

On December 26, 1956, "The Klansman," described by HENDRIX as the official publication of KKKK, ordered the above-named group to again become active in the fight against integration by all lawful means, destroy Communism, Facism and Nazism.

On [] advised that HENDRIX is the head of the organization and the headquarters of the organization is at Oldsmar, Florida.

b2

b7D

[] advised, on January 29, 1957, that HENDRIX uses the names Southern Knights of the KKK and Knights of the KKK interchangeably, but they are one and the same organization.

Original Southern Klans, Inc. has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

- P -

MM 100-11349

I. INDEX

- A -

[REDACTED]

- B -

[REDACTED]

- C -

[REDACTED]

- D -

DIEHL, JOE.....17

- E -

EDWARDS, ELDON L.....5,6,9,16
ELLIS, BILL.....16

b7C

- F -

FLEMING, FLOYD.....17
FOWLER, C. LEWIS (Dr.).....2

- G -

GATES, JOHN.....2

- H -

[REDACTED]
HENDRIX, BILL.....1 through 20
HORN, ALVIN.....16

- K -

[REDACTED]

1. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-28-01 BY 60267 NUS/EP/CD

MM 100-11349

Page

- L -

[REDACTED]

- M -

[REDACTED]

MONK, JOHN TAPERS.....6

[REDACTED]

- S -

1st SIMMONS, WILLIAM JOSEPH.....19

- T -

2nd TINKER, GEORGE.....15

"WILD BILL".....16

[REDACTED]

b7C